

The background of the entire page is a dark blue color. It is filled with a repeating pattern of white line-art icons of various types of microscopes, including compound, binocular, and electron microscopes, scattered across the surface.

20

ANNUAL REPORT

Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum

22

Director's Letter

The year 2022 marks not only the 36th anniversary of the office but also a kind of renaissance. After a decade under Acting Directors who did remarkable things with quite limited resources, ONHM was poised for a return to form. At the start of the year, OIR's then-DDIR, Dr. Michael Gottesman, and his Deputy, Dr. Richard Wyatt, committed themselves to restoring ONHM's staffing and resources to earlier levels. As part of this commitment, they honored me with an appointment as ONHM's full-time Director and NIH Historian. Dr. Nina Schor, when appointed as the new DDIR, embraced and expanded on these commitments. As I write this letter in June of 2023, therefore, I can report that several "obstacles and limitations" noted in this Report have been, or are in the process of being, addressed: including through the award of one-time funds to support a full website revamp and a new system to migrate, store, and catalogue our expanding "digital assets."

ONHM's renaissance has brought with it a number of achievements, many of which are recounted in this annual report. It has also set the stage for even greater accomplishments in the future. At the same time, it has been several years—some 14, according to available records— since ONHM last produced an annual report. Therefore, we have decided, in this and several subsequent reports, to recount some of the history of the history office. Here, you will find a sketch of the office, from its origins through its years under Mr. Christopher Wanjek—who, with frequent assistance from another former Acting Director, Dr. Alan Schechter, did much to ensure ONHM's continued existence.

Finally, I would like to note an interesting parallel between ONHM's beginnings and its present circumstances. ONHM began in the midst of a pandemic; it has witnessed its restoration in the waning of another pandemic. NIH was deeply involved in the response to both HIV/AIDS and COVID-19. ONHM has been there to capture essential historical, and historic, information on NIH's responses to both pandemics. The concurrence of AIDS and ONHM's beginnings is largely coincidental. I would argue, however, that its rebirth in the wake of COVID-19 is more causal. While ONHM has enjoyed support at OIR's highest levels from the time of its transfer from OD's OCPL in 2006, COVID, despite all the suffering it has caused, seems to have awakened a broader appreciation of the importance of history throughout NIH. I sometimes think of this as proof that the "silver linings" theory applies to even the darkest of clouds – and, by extension, of 2022 as ONHM's "Silver Linings Renaissance."

We at ONHM, with a little help from our friends across the agency and beyond, look forward to illuminating the full landscape of NIH's history.

Kim Pelis, Ph.D.
Director, ONHM, June 2023



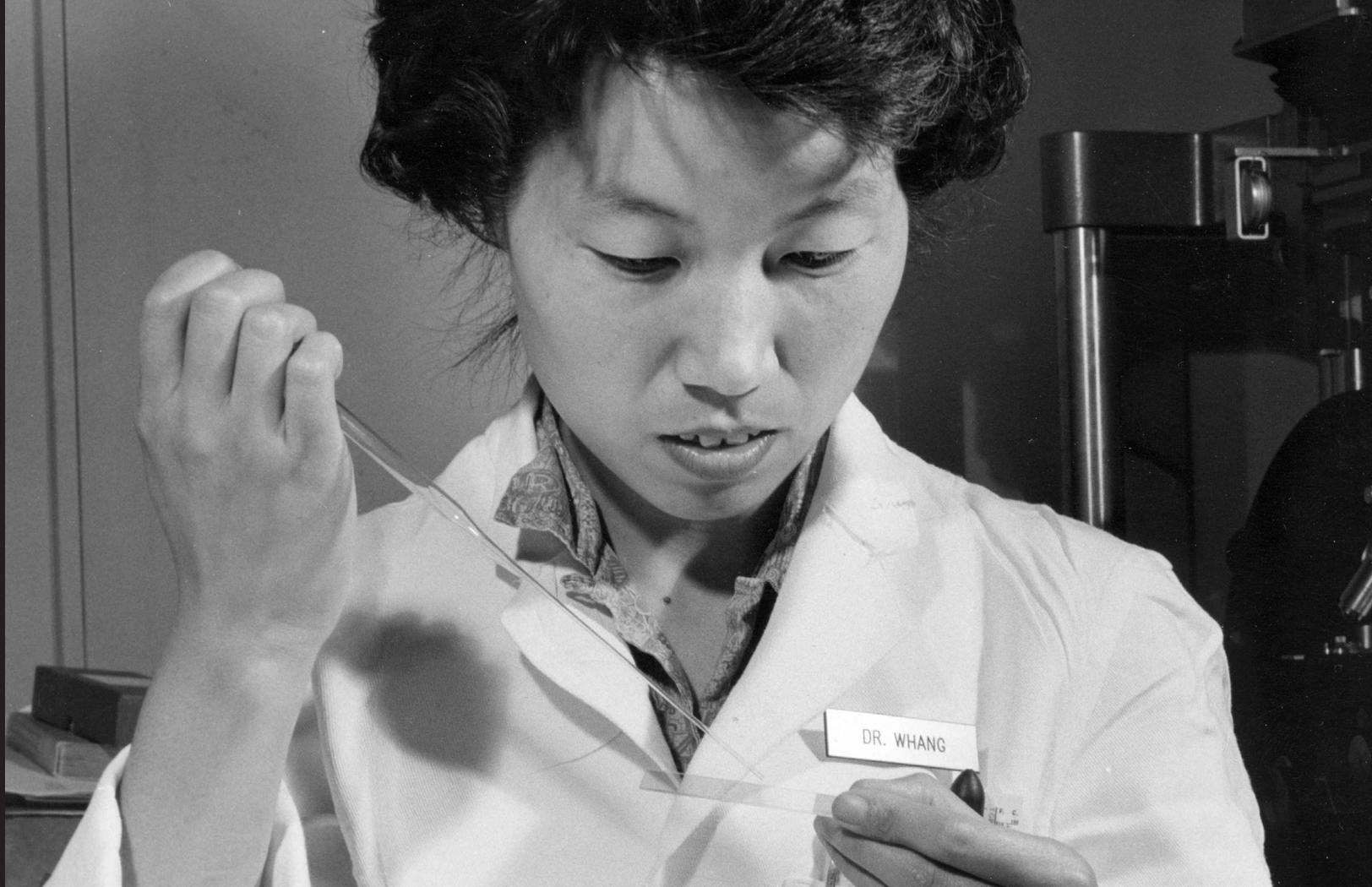
Table of Contents

Mission	4
Vision	5
Origins and Early Decades	6
Current Staff and Roles	10
Location and Space	12
Stetten Museum	18
Exhibits	20
Archives	22
Reference Library	26
Special Projects	28
Service, Outreach, Social Media, and Publications	32
Focus for 2023	36
Appendix I: Lists of ONHM Exhibits	
Current Exhibits (by location)	38
Exhibits in Development	40
Appendix II: Photo Captions	43

Mission

The Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum (ONHM) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) advances the historical understanding of biomedical research conducted at NIH by documenting, preserving, and interpreting the history of significant NIH achievements, scientists, staff, programs, and policies. In support of the NIH mission, ONHM conserves, provides access to, and explores historical evidence, while offering contextualized, critical perspectives on NIH's drive to turn discovery into health.





Vision

ONHM serves as a national and international hub for the exploration and interpretation of NIH history, bringing together the agency's resources, research, and projects, including those of its Institutes, Centers, Offices (ICOs), and programs; and relevant links to external sources. ONHM focuses specifically on NIH—its people, facilities, and resources; its contributions to national and international research initiatives; its interactions with scientific and educational institutions and technology innovation centers; policies, decisions, and infrastructure. It also focuses on the lived experience of its researchers and staff in the context of the contemporary history of biomedical science and its applications in medicine and public health. Among its many activities, ONHM conserves historically significant documents and other objects that illustrate NIH's rich and ongoing history; creates innovative exhibits; produces high-quality historical research; and aids and assists scholars and other researchers.

Origins and Early Decades

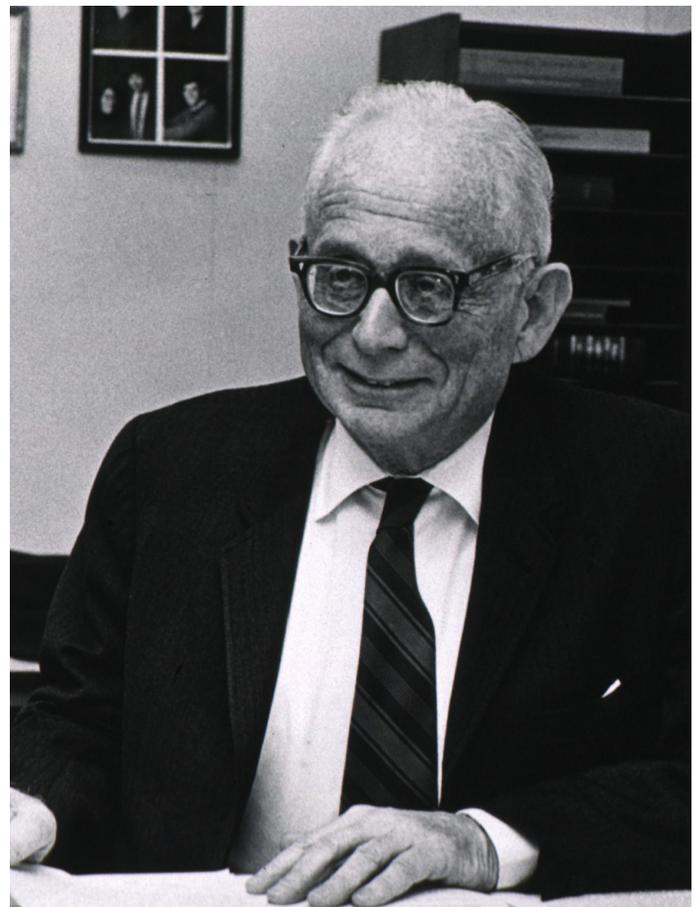
Long before ONHM was established, historians at NIH worked to document the agency's history. In the early 1950s, Louise Endicott, a staff member of the NIH Scientific Reports Branch, asked to be appointed as an unofficial agency "historian." She served in that capacity until her retirement in 1956. In 1962, Dr. Wyndham Miles became the first professional historian for NIH. He served until 1974, when he moved to the History of Medicine Division (HMD) at the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

More than a decade later, NIH history found an institutional home. As NIH was planning its 1987 centennial celebration, [DeWitt \(Hans\) Stetten Jr., M.D., Ph.D.](#), suggested the creation of a museum of medical research. At the time, Dr. Stetten, capping off an illustrious career as a scientist and administrator, was Senior Scientific Advisor to NIH Director Dr. James Wyngaarden. Dr. Wyngaarden approved the plan, and, in 1986, the NIH Museum of Medical Research was officially launched. Upon Dr. Stetten's retirement in 1987, the museum was renamed the DeWitt Stetten, Jr. Museum of Medical Research.

In the beginning, the Museum staff consisted of just one person: Director Victoria A. Harden, Ph.D. Selected for the position by Dr. Stetten himself, Dr. Harden was an experienced medical historian who since 1984 had been on the staff at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) conducting research on the history of Rocky Mountain spotted fever. In the

Museum's first year, Dr. Harden brought on Michele Lyons, then a graduate student in museum studies, as the first intern. Dennis Rodrigues subsequently joined the office as an NIH Management Intern, setting up ONHM's first website and helping Dr. Harden initiate its oral history program. A collaboration with Medical Arts gave birth to ONHM's first exhibits, which were developed and maintained primarily by Dr. Harden and located throughout the Bethesda campus.

In the early 2000s, the office expanded to include Dr. Sarah Leavitt as Deputy Director, Drs. Leo Slater and Caroline Hannaway as Senior Historians, Brooke Fox as Archivist, Richard Meyers as Photo Archivist, and Marilyn Berman as administrative support. Drs. Harden and Hannaway, with support from Deborah Kraut, enlarged and codified the oral history program as part of the



special project *In Their Own Words: NIH Researchers Recall the Early Years of AIDS*, which documented the history of NIH's AIDS research (<https://history.nih.gov/display/history/In+Their+Own+Words>).

Soon after Dr. Stetten's death in 1990, ONHM established the Stetten Fellowship program to support postdoctoral fellows in the history of science and medicine, thereby memorializing Dr. Stetten's devotion to NIH history. The program sponsored 26 scholars between 1993 and 2010 (<https://history.nih.gov/display/history/Former+Fellows>). Fellows assisted with ONHM projects and conducted independent research on NIH history and its social, clinical, and scientific contexts.

On Dr. Harden's retirement in 2006, ONHM convened a symposium, "Biomedicine in

the Twentieth Century: Practices, Policies, and Politics," to celebrate her tenure as founding Director. Presentations by leading biomedical historians reflected, in part, on ONHM's accomplishments under Dr. Harden's leadership. The proceedings, edited by Dr. Hannaway, were subsequently published by IOS Press in 2008. (<https://www.iospress.com/catalog/books/biomedicine-in-the-twentieth-century-practices-policies-and-politics>).

In early 2006, the office was administratively transferred to the Office of Intramural Research (OIR). Dr. Michael Gottesman, then-Deputy Director for Intramural Research, asked Dr. Alan Schechter, an intramural scientist and Chair of ONHM's Advisory Committee, to serve as ONHM's Acting Director during the search for Dr. Harden's successor. Under Dr. Schechter's guidance,



ONHM expanded the programs and activities initiated under Dr. Harden and launched two special projects: one on the history of the NIH Clinical Center (CC); the other on the roles of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) in the evolution of neuroscience and behavioral studies. The Stetten Fellowship program supported two new scholars each year for either one or two years. In addition to scholarly articles published by Stetten Fellows under ONHM's auspices, ONHM produced several full volumes of proceedings from its robust program of research meetings and seminars.

ONHM's second full-time Director, Dr. Robert Martensen, served from 2007 until 2012 and remained engaged with ONHM until his death in 2013. During his tenure, the office initially supported as many as six Stetten Fellows at once. Dr. Martensen also brought on archivist Barbara Faye Harkins and ONHM's first in-house exhibit designer, Hank Grasso, to assist Ms. Lyons with collection efforts and exhibit development, respectively. Unfortunately, the Stetten Fellowships—along with many other postdoctoral positions across NIH—were suspended in 2010 for lack of funds. When the Budget Control Act of 2011 led to sequestration in 2013, further cuts became necessary.

For the next decade, the office operated under Acting Directors. Initially, Dr. David Cantor, Dr. Martensen's former Deputy, led a skeleton staff of one full-time (Ms. Harkins) and two part-time employees (Ms. Lyons and Mr. Grasso), along with a small cohort of dedicated volunteers. Together, they maintained ONHM's collecting efforts and mounted new exhibits while providing support services for ICOs and external researchers, engaged in social



media outreach, and responded to public inquiries. In October 2013, as part of ONHM's contribution to the NIH Clinical Center's 60th anniversary celebrations, Ms. Lyons initiated some of the very first NIH social media accounts, creating ONHM accounts on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Tumblr.

Christopher Wanjek, the Communications Director in OIR, served as the ONHM Acting Director from 2013 to 2022. Under his guidance, the office renewed its investment in launching new exhibits (Mr. Grasso was now a full-time employee), conducting and posting oral histories, and expanding its collecting efforts. ONHM's visibility across campus increased dramatically as it deepened its connections with other NIH offices, particularly NLM's HMD, as well as the two on-campus publications, the *NIH Record* and *The NIH Catalyst*. Major updates of the ONHM website to accommodate the expanding number and range of ONHM products improved its stability and accessibility as well as made editing content and posting new content easier.

Mr. Wanjek, with Ms. Lyons, now a full-time staff member (from 2015), organized a Museum Collections Advisory Committee to guide and assist the staff in collection-development efforts. Major exhibits were mounted on the careers and accomplishments of Dr. Santiago Ramón y Cajal (Building 35); Dr. Christian Anfinsen (Building 10); and Dr. Michael Potter (Building 10), along with a retrospective exhibit entitled *NIBIB: Past/Present* (Building 31). In 2018, an exhibit about NIH dental research, cosponsored by the National Institute of Dental and

Craniofacial Research (NIDCR), was opened in Building 30. (See Appendix.)

With the growing number and diversity of ONHM exhibits, a series of major NIH anniversaries, joint projects with HMD, and a jump in articles relating to historical topics, ONHM pursued direct access to ICOs to encourage their leaders and staff to document and recount their own histories. ONHM staff helped preserve documentation of ICOs' research by collecting papers of retiring employees, capturing the voices of NIH's active workforce by conducting and facilitating oral histories, and assisting with commemorative projects to highlight important milestones.

In 2019, with the impending retirements of Archivist, Ms. Harkins, and Exhibit Designer, Mr. Grasso, ONHM began a major staffing transition. Mark Riewestahl joined ONHM as a Pathways Intern, with Mr. Grasso as mentor. Ms. Lyons was promoted to Associate Director in January 2020, and in April 2020 Gabrielle Barr was hired as a contract archivist. Ms. Harkins and Mr. Grasso were succeeded by Ms. Barr and Mx. Riewestahl as ONHM's regular staff. By early 2022, Mr. Wanjek had recruited two Pathways Interns in Museum Studies: Devon Valera, who worked primarily with Ms. Lyons; and Haley Higingbotham, who worked with Ms. Barr. Archivist Matt Shirko joined ONHM as a part-time contractor in April 2022 to assist with transcribing oral history interviews.

Current Staff and Roles

In March 2022, Kim Pelis, Ph.D., became ONHM's permanent Director and NIH Historian, thereby increasing the number of full-time, permanent ONHM staff to four. Ms. Lyons continues as the Stetten Museum Curator and ONHM's Associate Director, while Ms. Barr serves as Archivist and manages ONHM's Oral History Program. In September 2022, on completing the Pathways Graduate Internship program, Ms. Valera and Ms. Higingbotham became full-time members of ONHM's staff. Ms. Valera is now the Stetten Museum's permanent Collections Manager while Ms. Higingbotham serves primarily as ONHM's Audiovisual Archivist and Reference Librarian. Mx. Riewestahl became our Exhibit Specialist in November 2022, providing branding and visual design of ONHM's publications, designing exhibits, and initiating a much-needed update of the ONHM website. In July 2022, Kristin Heitman, Ph.D., joined as a contract Senior Historian/Senior Advisor. She supports Dr. Pelis in rebuilding the office, developing policy documents, and re-establishing the Stetten Fellowships.

In support of ONHM's staff efforts, its seven regular volunteers organize archival collections; assist with reference questions; research and write about the collections; and conduct and edit oral history interviews. Without their help, many essential functions would have gone unfulfilled or progressed far more slowly.

Obstacles and limitations:

The focus for 2022 was on establishing a staffing plan to recruit and retain highly qualified workers. ONHM urgently needs a dedicated administrative support person rather than relying wholly on OIR's management support services group. It must also hire Ms. Lyons's successor prior to her planned retirement in late 2023, updating the position requirements to match the office's expanded scope and obligations. Equally important, new position descriptions (PDs) must be written and classified to fully establish all three of the GS-9/11/12 positions approved and funded by OIR in 2022 in order to recruit and retain gifted junior staff. Late in 2022, Mx. Riewestahl was competitively hired into the GS-9 exhibit specialist position and Ms. Valera became a GS-9 on completing her Pathways internship. The remaining steps are to create and fill the GS-9 archivist position and to establish classified PDs for the higher-level positions in all three series. The office is also working to hire a Deputy Director to assist with supervision, staff development, educational programs, Stetten Fellows, and special projects.



Location and Space

ONHM is located in Building 60, formerly known as the Cloisters, the oldest building on the NIH campus. Built in 1923 as a home for the Sisters of Visitation of Washington, D.C., and acquired by NIH in 1984, it is now formally known as the Mary Woodard Lasker Center for Health Research and Education. In addition to the ONHM areas, Building 60 includes residences for students in the NIH Medical Research Scholars Program (MRSP), a lecture hall, classrooms, and meeting rooms; and hosts an array of educational programs and functions.

As an historic building, the Cloisters offers lovely architectural features but also poses significant practical challenges, particularly as housing for fragile historic items that need stable environmental conditions. Although

COVID-era policies discouraged employees and visitors from coming on campus and allowed for extensive telework, space for both work and storage has remained tight.

Until the end of 2022, ONHM occupied four offices, a conference room, and a library on the second floor of Building 60, as well as a processing room in the basement. The processing room is used for processing new acquisitions, mounting exhibits, and storing archival material.

Most of ONHM's archives are stored in the processing room, which provides a relatively secure and stable environment. Unfortunately, donations and proactive collection efforts to keep up with unfolding historical events have meant that ONHM's collections have outgrown that limited space. As a result, approximately 20% of the archival collections, securely boxed, are temporarily stored in overflow



space, either in the hallway outside the processing room or in ONHM and OIR offices and the conference room on the second floor. From March 2019 through March 2022, while NIH operated under campus-wide COVID restrictions, the physical security of the collection was a minor concern. However, as Building 60 has reopened to other occupants and occasional visitors, ONHM has started to press forward with plans to consolidate its non-museum collections in a single, permanent, fully secure space.

Storage conditions for the Stetten Museum markedly improved in 2021–2022, reversing a 10-year trend of frequent moves and downsizing. Through the early 2000s, most of the museum’s objects not on display were kept either in leased space of 2,355 square feet in the NIH’s Global Distribution Center (GDC) warehouse in Gaithersburg, Maryland, or in an additional 1,000 square

feet of on-campus storage in Building 13. In 2010, all the items at GDC were moved to a new leased space of 2,487 square feet in an NIH warehouse on Stonestreet Avenue in Rockville, Maryland. Unfortunately, that space could be only partially secured, for one of its two rooms served as a common corridor for other building occupants. In 2018, ONHM lost its storage area in Building 13 and all Stetten Museum items not on exhibit or undergoing accession, cleaning, or restoration had to be squeezed into the Stonestreet space.

In February 2022, the collection was moved to a new warehouse in Gaithersburg, next door to the GDC warehouse. This new area, a single room of approximately 3,435 square feet, is fully secure and provides significantly more storage space for fragile items. Under the terms of the lease, the space was equipped with a new HVAC system designed to maintain temperature and humidity



levels within the standards set by museum professional associations. Unfortunately, the overflow pipe for the humidifier backed up into ONHM's storage space in November, soaking three items on a processing table and leaving a large pool of water next to the floor drain. Fortunately, all three items could be fully restored thanks to Dr. Mary Walter (National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases [NIDDK]) who donated short-term freezer space that allowed ONHM staff to halt water damage prior to restoration, and to Conservator Holly Herro (NLM's HMD) who provided expert advice.

Remediation plans were initiated in late November 2022. ONHM staff, led by Ms. Valera and Ms. Higingbotham, developed comprehensive risk management and emergency plans to govern ONHM's practices and planning in caring for all of its collections. The risk management plan addresses the 10 most common hazards for museum and archival collections. It considers not only environmental factors such as light, temperature, and relative humidity, but also physical security and dissociation of individual objects and documents from the collection's organizational infrastructure. The emergency plan will identify risks, roles, priorities, and procedures for dealing with both common and urgent emergency situations. Both plans will be finalized as ONHM's storage facilities are upgraded.

A new collections development policy to delineate the scope of ONHM's collections was developed in 2022 by Dr. Heitman, Ms. Lyons, Ms. Barr, Ms. Valera, and Ms. Higingbotham. It will ensure long-term

consistency and focus as ONHM reconfigures its storage and tracking capacity. The policy will guide active collection efforts, decisions about proposed donations, deaccessioning of objects outside ONHM's mission, and will ensure that those efforts maximize the value of the collections in serving ONHM's mission and vision.

Obstacles and limitations:

The new warehouse space still needs modifications. Two skylights installed by a previous tenant must be painted over to prevent light bleaching of dyed and printed items in the collection. The overflow pipe from the air-conditioning system must be rerouted, and the drain in the floor must be made flush. Better boxing of individual items and other protections should be completed to ensure that objects are neither bleached by light nor vulnerable to damage from water or other risk factors. Unfortunately, this process is time-consuming, and the Museum's two-person staff can complete it only with volunteer help and when not involved in other urgent tasks.







Stetten Museum

The Stetten Museum collection includes laboratory and clinical instruments and devices, used or invented by NIH staff, an array of non-scientific objects that document NIH's history as a living institution, and an extensive collection of instrument manuals and trade catalogs. As of December 2022, the collection included over 4,000 artifacts that span the whole of NIH's history, from its origins in the U.S. Marine Hospital Service in the 1880s to current efforts to contend with, understand, and end the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Museum's initial approach to collecting historical items focused on medical innovations that arose from NIH laboratory research and clinical care. These artifacts primarily documented NIH's world-famous projects and its most eminent researchers. Over the last several years, however, the scope of collecting has expanded to include instruments and devices ubiquitous in laboratory and clinical care, and non-scientific objects that document the social context of NIH discoveries and the ways in which NIH has operated as an institution. As a result, both collecting efforts and exhibitions have become more deliberately inclusive of non-scientific staff and their functions, complementing NIH's attention to the inclusion of women and minorities in all roles.

The successful move of the Museum's entire collection to the Gaithersburg warehouse ranks among ONHM's major accomplishments in 2022. The process required not only retaining qualified specialty movers but also inventorying and evaluating the collection; deaccessioning objects outside the Museum's scope; identifying objects with hazardous materials to receive special packing; selecting shelving-unit types and locations for over 3,000 objects; and overseeing the actual move, including unpacking and shelving of items in the new space. Once the move was completed, Ms. Lyons and Ms. Valera conducted a complete inventory to ensure that the collection was complete and intact.

Significant donations made to the Museum collections in 2022 included:

Research artifacts from Dr. Gary Peck: Donations from Dr. Peck reflect his groundbreaking research that ultimately led to the 1982 launch of Accutane (isotretinoin), a highly effective treatment for acne and other skin disorders. Donated items include early Accutane pills and bottles from the very first clinical trials of isotretinoin.

Gifts to NIH Director Francis Collins: This collection includes an extensive range of gifts and awards. Taken together, the items provide a timeline of Dr. Collins's career that highlights his contributions to NIH outreach, the public good, and health diplomacy.

Vaccine Research Center (VRC) collection:

This donation includes vaccine and monoclonal antibody vials from work conducted since the VRC was launched in 1997 as part of a federal effort to develop safe, effective AIDS prevention and treatment. Museum objects and the accompanying documents will be featured in two ONHM exhibits already in development: one on the history of the VRC; one on the career of Dr. Anthony Fauci.

Nobel laureate Karl Landsteiner's scale:

The laboratory scale used by Dr. Karl Landsteiner (1868–1943) in discovering the role of Rh factors in blood typing and human blood transfusion was donated to ONHM for permanent display on the NIH campus. The donor chose ONHM over the Smithsonian to give NIH staff and visitors access to the scale as part of their everyday lives.

Office of Technology Transfer (OTT)

collection: OTT has donated a large collection of artifacts documenting NIH inventions that they have helped to patent and take to market. These objects are especially valuable in showing how NIH puts taxpayers' funding to good use and ultimately generates new jobs and business opportunities. Some of these donations also illustrate connections among several of the Museum's existing collections, which can be the focus of future exhibits.

COVID-19: This collection documents NIH's laboratory and clinical research of COVID-19; the institutional measures that allowed work to continue safely as the pandemic unfolded; and the individual efforts and experiences of

NIH researchers, staff, patients, and families. Donated items include lab coats from Drs. Kizzmekia Corbett and Barney Graham; COVID diagnostic tests and therapeutics packaging; a blood-sample kit from a nationwide antibody sera-survey; magnetic beads used to purify large quantities of SARS-CoV-2 proteins for research during the pandemic; a bouquet of paper flowers fashioned from the CC's COVID-19 screening stickers; artifacts from the Diamond Princess cruise ship that transported NIH employees deployed to Japan in February 2020; and bobbleheads of Drs. Anthony Fauci and Barney Graham. Historically important instruments and other items still in use will be collected as they are retired.

Obstacles and limitations:

The Museum's most significant challenges derive from its space and storage conditions. Remediation of risks at the Gaithersburg warehouse are still being negotiated with NIH's Office of Research Facilities and the landlord. In addition, ONHM has only limited space on campus to gather donated objects and stage new exhibits. Limited staffing also limits capacity to process and care for collections.

Exhibits

ONHM maintains several permanent exhibits that feature themes and individuals with lasting influence on NIH, its mission and operations, and its accomplishments. Many of the physical exhibits have descriptive virtual counterparts on ONHM's website (<http://history.nih.gov/>).

A complete list of ONHM's current exhibits is provided in Appendix I. With seven new exhibits launched between 2019 and 2022 and 15 currently in development, the three-person exhibit team formed when Mx. Riewestahl and Ms. Valera joined Ms. Lyons on ONHM's staff has significantly increased the rate at which new exhibits can be inaugurated. The new hires not only tripled the Museum's workforce but significantly enhanced its expertise, allowing ONHM to undertake more complex, dynamic presentations.

Obstacles and limitations:

The variety and pace of exhibit development is largely contingent on funding, which must be requested and arranged exhibit by exhibit. Moreover, because nearly all exhibits are funded by one or more ICOs, ONHM has no reliable funding source for addressing more complex or global themes.



Archives

The ONHM archives chronicle the research and pursuits of NIH's ICOs as well the people who make scientific discovery possible on each of NIH's campuses. In 2022, special targets for collection included the evolution of NIH's grant-application review; NIH's research into epidemic diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Zika, and COVID-19; celebrations of milestones in NIH history; and technologies used and developed by people at NIH. While the collection focuses on NIH's intramural program, it also encompasses information about endeavors funded by NIH's extramural division, the connections between NIH and the Public Health Service, and the interplay between NIH and other Government entities. These materials provide context for ONHM exhibits and NIH commemorations as well as reliable resources for scholars and media outlets.

At the end of 2022, the ONHM archives contained over 400 linear feet of analog materials and 20 terabytes of digital content. Materials that document the history of NIH ICOs consist of reports and guidelines, brochures and pamphlets, lecture programs, flyers, social media posts, recruitment announcements, emails, meeting minutes and agendas, correspondence, presentations, and newsletters and clippings. Items related to the history of NIH buildings and grounds, including blueprints, drawings, and drafts, also form an important part of the collection. In addition, ONHM also conserves an extensive collection of biographical



information about a wide range of NIH employees as well as the personal papers of prominent individuals affiliated with NIH, such as Drs. Sally Amero, Philip Chen Jr., Michael Gottesman, and Theodor Kolobow. Its audiovisual collection includes photographic prints, slides, negatives, contact sheets, and digital files along with many historically significant CDs, DVDs, video and audio cassettes, U-Matics, Betacams, MP3s, and MP4s. In addition, the ONHM archives staff oversees the capture of born-digital material, including ICO websites. These websites are available for viewing via the Internet Archive (<https://archive.org/>). In 2022, ONHM began capturing web pages of NIH-wide enterprises such as HEAL, UNITE, ECHO, and the BRAIN initiative.

Major efforts for 2022 focused on the organization and description of archival records to improve physical and intellectual control over ONHM's holdings. Volunteers Judy Grosberg and Miriam Muallem have generated finding aids for several of ONHM's special collections. Over the summer, Ms. Barr and Ms. Higingbotham categorized and indexed the main audiovisual collection, which is in the process of being digitized. In the fall, Ms. Higingbotham conducted a complete audit of the library's holdings, weeded out duplicate and irrelevant volumes, and organized the remaining books and the inventory by Library of Congress number. ONHM is complying with—and helping ICOs comply with—the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-19-21 and National Archives and Records Administration regulations, part of a Federal-wide transition to fully electronic business

processes and recordkeeping. Under the new policy, permanent Federal records were to be created, managed, and maintained in electronic format, with appropriate metadata, by the end of 2022. Federal agencies were also required to close their records-storage facilities and transfer inactive, temporary paper records to a Federal Records Center or a commercial storage facility. For NARA, charged with collecting and retaining documentation of Federal operations, the transition originally meant accepting only digital records after December 31, 2019. Due to significant COVID-related restrictions on the Federal workforce, however, that deadline was extended twice: first to December 31, 2022, and then to June 30, 2024, as OMB Directive M-23-07.

As agencies make the transition to digital records, paper records subject to the Federal Records Act must be either physically mailed to NARA or submitted through a NARA portal as digitized scans with the requisite metadata. However, certain materials are of such historical or organizational importance that a request for a compelling exemption may be filed by the agency. With one-time funding provided by OIR, ONHM engaged Quality Associates Inc. (QAI) to assist in its own compliance process. As an added benefit, ONHM archivists have been able to provide specialized advice to ICOs regarding their own compliance efforts, supplementing but not replacing the guidance available from NIH records managers. QAI's review of ONHM's records also provides a head start on the records inventory required for a potential physical move planned for 2023.

ONHM's active collection efforts focused on preserving evidence of both NIH's role in mitigating the COVID-19 pandemic and the public's reactions to it through documents such as news articles, emails, photographs, reports, social media posts, cartoons, infographics, and press releases. ONHM also gathered over 2,250 videos, podcasts, and radio segments for NLM to archive and host on their website. An online portal, available through the ONHM website in either English or Spanish, provided a way for individual staff members to document their personal experiences during the pandemic.

In the summer of 2022, as monkeypox (now called mpox) became a health emergency in the United States, ONHM began collecting relevant emails, physical and digital articles, and newsclips that mentioned NIH. ONHM also gathered records of NIH research into outbreaks of monkeypox and Zika virus. By December 2022, the office had acquired 48 articles and 10 video segments.

Significant donations in 2022 included:

Alfred Liu: Architect Alfred Liu designed and renovated several NIH buildings between 1984 and 2000. His daughter donated 10 boxes of her father's proposals, studies, correspondence, designs, and reports.

Dr. Gary Peck: Dr. Peck was interviewed for an oral history and donated museum objects, digital files, and several boxes (approximately 16 linear feet) of archival materials that date from the late 1960s through the early 2000s. The collection includes a variety of formats such as correspondence, spreadsheets, scientific articles, newsletters, photos, and

35 mm slides that relate to his career as a dermatologist.

Dr. Francis Collins: After Dr. Collins retired as the Director of NIH, ONHM was given materials related to his speeches and presentations as Director, which filled two hard drives. A third drive includes tributes from NIH personnel and dignitaries from around the globe. Additionally, ONHM captured a recording of Dr. Collins's retirement celebration via web archiving. These materials document Dr. Collins' commitment to outreach to a wide array of audiences and include several TED talks and collaborations such as Sound Health. Sound Health, jointly developed by NIH, the Kennedy Center, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, is an ongoing exploration of the impact of music on the brain and wellness.

UNITE: Prompted in part by 2020's widely-publicized incidents of police brutality, NIH established UNITE to address structural racism and promote equitable representation and inclusion at NIH and throughout the larger biomedical research enterprise. ONHM began documenting the initiative in 2021 and, in 2022, added historically significant digital materials such as reports, presentations, emails, and photos.

Dr. Ichiji Tasaki (1910–2009): Dr. Tasaki, a Japanese-born American biophysicist and physician who worked at NIH for over 50 years, discovered the insulating function of the myelin sheath, which surrounds and protects individual nerves. His work paved the way to a better understanding of and treatments for degenerative diseases such

as multiple sclerosis. Since September 2022, Dr. Tasaki's son has donated photographs, correspondence, and publications relating to his father's life and work.

NIDCR: As a result of its efforts to comply with the OMB M-19-21 mandate, NIDCR identified and donated 20 boxes of historically important materials, including a near-complete set of NIDCR newsletters, many reports, information about NIDCR's lecture series, educational resources in both English and Spanish, and materials from a 1990s awareness campaign about the harmful effects of chewing tobacco.

NIAID: ONHM similarly acquired nearly 15 linear feet of documents from NIAID. Many pertain to intramural NIAID leadership meetings and presentations delivered by senior administrators in the early 2000s on a wide range of subjects, including the creation of Ebola and malaria vaccines as well as stem-cell research.

Office of Management Assessment (OMA): OMA donated dozens of NIH organizational handbooks from the second half of the 20th century. These new acquisitions fill in several gaps in ONMH's previous holdings. They provide names and official titles of senior NIH leaders over 50 years and, as a set, help demonstrate the transformation of NIH's administrative structure.

NIH nursing photo scrapbooks: Donated by the NIH CC, these albums showcase the roles and activities of NIH nurses from the 1930s through the early 2000s, primarily in the 1980s and 1990s.

National Institute on Aging (NIA): When NIA offered ONHM and NLM nearly 2,000 audiovisual titles, ONHM ultimately accessioned 292 VHS tapes and nearly 50 items in other formats. Subjects include interviews with NIA scientists, footage from NIA research projects such as the Baltimore Longitudinal Study on Aging, and NIA-produced public service announcements on topics such as the importance of exercise; aging and mental health; and Alzheimer's disease.

Obstacles and limitations:

The main challenges for ONHM's archives, as for the Stetten Museum, stem from the need to properly store ONMH's collections. The entire archive should be stored in secure, climate-controlled space, but some 20% of its holdings must be kept in offices and hallways. ONHM's processing room is simply too small to hold the entire collection, especially since the room is also used to accession new donations, host researchers, and conduct research for ONHM's historical projects. Moreover, pipes from Building 60's HVAC and water systems, last updated in the 1980s, have begun to show their age.

The shortage of secure storage space is expected to become markedly worse. The recent jump in donations—due to ONHM's greater visibility as well as NIH-wide efforts to comply with OMB/NARA requirements—indicates that ONHM's archives will grow approximately 10% per year for at least the next three years.

Reference Library

ONHM's reference library on the history of medicine and science was initially developed to complement its archival and object collections. Ms. Higingbotham has set up, inventoried, and organized ONHM's collection. Most of the library's 1,000+ volumes were either written or co-written by NIH employees or pertain to research funded by or conducted at NIH. The remainder relate to the research and operations of other government organizations or to the history of science and medicine more broadly. Starting in fiscal year 2023, OIR will provide ONHM with an annual book budget to expand its library holdings, with particular attention to supporting research by past and future Stetten Fellows and the historical projects undertaken by ONHM staff.

Obstacles and limitations:

Thanks to the generosity of the NIH Medical Scholars Research Program (MRSP) and its Director, Dr. Susan Leitman, the ONHM library is in MSRP library space in Building 60. While the space is conveniently located near the ONHM offices and partially secure, it remains fully accessible to the MSRP students whose scholarship and convenience are its primary purpose. The lack of full security can, however, be an issue for the protection of the collection.





Special Projects

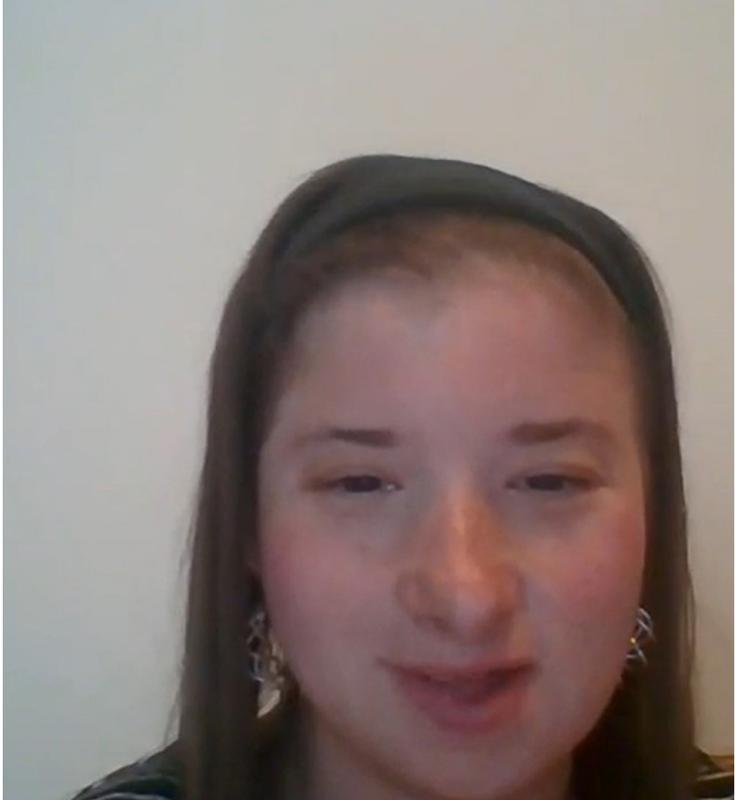
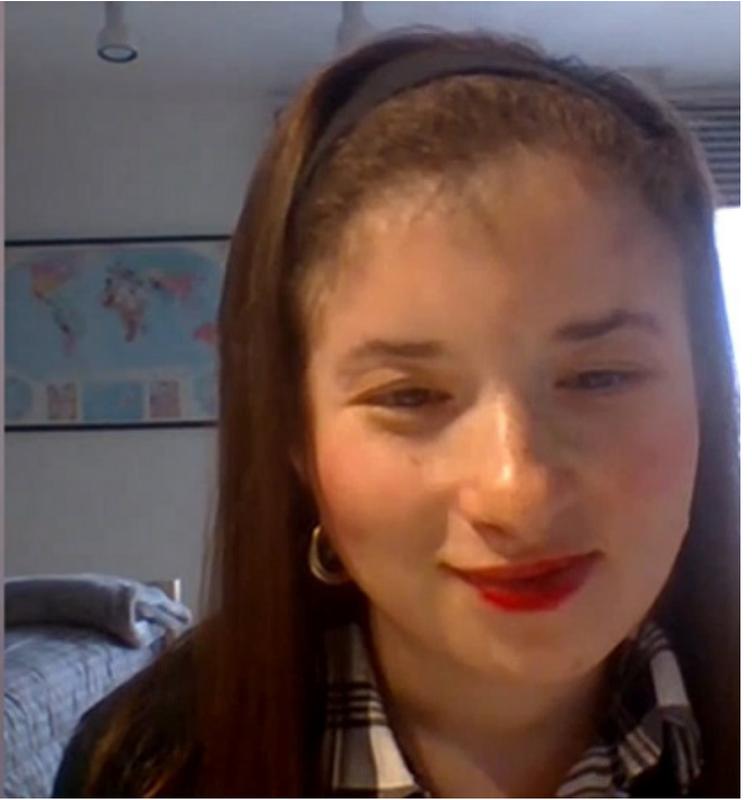
Oral Histories: ONHM’s oral history initiative, founded by Dr. Harden and currently administered by Ms. Barr, has produced recordings and transcripts of over 700 oral histories, about a third of which were conducted between 2020 and 2022. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, interviews have moved from being conducted in-person to virtual platforms. The change has enabled ONHM to reach people all over the country, including those with mobility issues. The addition of new staff and volunteers, many of whom have now learned to conduct oral history interviews, increased the rate and volume of interviewing.

Most of the recent interviews were part of ONHM’s “Behind the Mask” project, run by Ms. Barr with support from Ms. Lyons as part of ONHM’s COVID-collecting effort. The project captured the everyday experience of NIH’s researchers, staff, patients, and families during the COVID pandemic. These are available on the ONHM website, (<https://history.nih.gov/display/history/Oral+Histories+by+Institute+or+Center>) which also provides access to oral histories with NIH personnel collected by NIH contractors as well as to transcripts of interviews from the 1960s and 1970s, whose subjects discuss their experiences in the early decades of NIH’s existence.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) at NIH: ONHM volunteer Rachel Morse, currently an advanced graduate student in the American Studies Department at George Washington University, has been investigating the history of EDI at NIH, focusing on the

establishment of the EDI Office in 1970. By reviewing sources such as the *NIH Record*, Ms. Morse has identified people and programs important to the origins and development of NIH’s EDI efforts, including both outreach and awareness campaigns. She began her work by documenting the NIH MARC (Maximizing Access to Research Careers) program in preparation for the National Institute of General Medical Sciences’ (NIGMS) 60th anniversary in 2022. More recent results will become part of ONHM’s forthcoming exhibit, *Shadow Work: Race, Women, and History at NIH* (see Appendix). She has also conducted several oral history interviews with members of the NIH community, including Dr. Roland Owens, Director of Research Workforce Development in OIR, and Dr. Ericka Boone, *Director of the Division of Biomedical Research Workforce (DBRW) in the Office of Extramural Research, OD*.

All of Us: In November 2022, Aaron Condon approached ONHM and proposed investigating the complex origins of the *All of Us Research Program* by identifying and collating significant documents to establish a timeline of seminal events. He is now an ONHM intern and during his year-long internship, he will reconstruct the major context, influences, and events of the program’s origins as well as conduct oral histories of individuals who led or executed plans and policies to bring *All of Us* to its present state. Mr. Condon, who is pursuing an M.A. (online) in public history at the University of Nebraska, also serves as Director of Management for *All of Us*. Once the internship is complete, he plans to draw on his experience to help ONHM develop a model, resources, and processes for other ICOs and



programs that want to document their own histories.

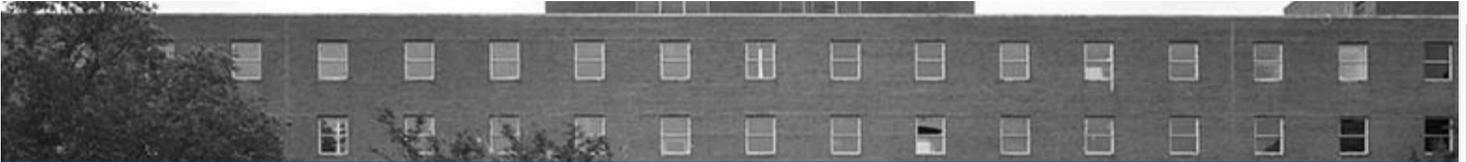
In the Service of Health: In the summer of 2021, ONHM Acting Director Christopher Wanjek was asked by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for help and advice in documenting the “border crisis” brought about by high levels of migration—including unusual numbers of unaccompanied minors—to and through the southern border of the United States. At the same time, on the request of then-NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins, NLM Director Dr. Patricia Brennan asked NLM’s HMD and ONHM to work together to document the experiences of NIH’s volunteers. The joint project, “Border Stories,” was modeled on ONHM’s COVID-19 collection efforts and the oral history interviews of “Behind the Mask.” ONMH agreed to collect donations of mementos, photos, and other historically significant items, and interview NIH volunteers who had been detailed to ACF under the Federal Civilian Detailee (FCD) program, a Health and Human Services program designed to improve deployment and response capabilities during humanitarian crises, public health emergencies, and legislative mandates that urgently require temporary personnel.

With one-time funds provided by NLM, ONHM set up a project website, including a portal for NIH volunteers to donate items, record experiences, sign up for oral histories, and more. Due to the confidential nature of border activities and the volunteers’ interactions with minors, no interviews or donated materials would be made public until a date jointly determined by NIH and ACF.

Unfortunately, the dual complexities of preserving volunteers’ privacy and the challenges of obtaining formal permission from individual ACF supervisors led to a temporary postponement of the project. Yet the value of the project is clear. As 2022 drew to a close, ONHM decided to reconfigure “Border Stories” as one component of a broader, longer-term project, subsequently entitled “In the Service of Health.” This new, extended project will document occasions on which NIH staff and researchers have participated in FCD and other government calls to provide service. Meanwhile, official permission was granted to request materials from volunteers of the 2021 border effort. These volunteers will be invited to participate, but their contributions will remain private until public disclosure is approved.

Obstacles and limitations:

Nearly all the constraints on conducting special projects arose because staff were working on competing projects that limited their time. Several ideas and opportunities that emerged in 2022 had to be postponed to 2023 or later. The reorganization of the office under its first permanent director in a decade required the entire ONHM staff to invest in assessing conditions and priorities, and both Ph.D. historians to focus on leading those changes, particularly in planning, execution, and other administrative requirements. Development of a more formal educational program for D.C.-area masters’ students and the relaunch of the Stetten Fellowships will also significantly enhance ONHM’s ability to pursue historical questions of its own.



Biologics Regulation and Research

The People and Work of Buildings 29 & 29A

[Home](#)

[Biographies](#)

[Labs](#)

[Diseases](#)

[Buildings](#)

[Photos](#)

[Bibliography](#)

Exhibit Overview

Biologics Regulation and Research: The People and Work of Buildings 29 & 29A

Service, Outreach, Social Media, and Publications

Each year, ONHM responds to more than 100 inquiries about NIH history and another 50 requests for information from its collection of trade and user manuals. Inquiries come from both within NIH and from the general public. In 2022, public inquiries were fielded from the U.S., U.K., and Germany. ONHM loaned an ear oximeter from the Stetten Museum for a BBC documentary; the loan required significant logistical planning.

Due to COVID-related restrictions on campus access, only six users consulted the ONHM archives in person in 2022. ONHM also fielded more than 70 online inquiries. Many of these inquiries related to requests for high-quality digital versions of specific photos, but users also raised more complex inquiries such as: the role of African American women at NIH from the 1930s through the 1970s; what LSD research was supported by NIH from the early 1950s through 1975, both intramurally and through extramural grants; how Mary Lasker campaigned against heart disease and cancer; which juvenile rehabilitation centers the National Institute of Mental Health's (NIMH) funded in the 1950s and 1960s; how technology has evolved at NIH through photos; and when the R01 grant was initiated. User services also include several standing or recurrent inquiries from ICOs. For instance, ONHM regularly conducted a search of its photo collection for the NIH Office of Portfolio Analysis's "Throwback Thursday" social-media feature in the fall of 2022.

ONHM collaborated with ICOs, including NIMH, NIAID, and NIDCR, to celebrate important anniversaries as well as to document and interpret their own histories. ONHM helped construct the National Institute on Drug Abuse's anniversary timeline by providing advice on conducting oral histories, locating relevant physical and digital documents, and scanning materials.

In 2022, ONHM posted at least twice weekly on its Twitter account (3,900 followers), with related posts on its Facebook page (1,800 followers). Since other NIH social media accounts repost and retweet ONHM content, their followers also gain historical insights. ONHM's social media program has a three-fold aim: publicize ONHM and its collections; recognize events and people in NIH history; and emphasize NIH's place in the broader history of biomedical sciences. Each month's offerings consisted of three or four posts with a common theme that typically reflects an official recognition (examples: Black History Month, Women's History Month, or Native American Heritage Month), plus three to four individual posts that featured the history of NIH ICOs and programs; interesting objects in the ONHM collections; or NIH researchers making history today. Data from 2022 shows that, in a typical month, ONHM tweets receive 15,800 impressions (number of times content was viewed).

The ONHM website (<https://history.nih.gov>) provides access to longer-term products such as ONHM's news and events announcements, occasional blog posts, virtual exhibits, and transcripts of oral histories. In 2021, Mx. Riewestahl worked with Information Technology contractor Jeremy Swan to

reorganize the website, improving its interface and aesthetics to enhance user experience. The changes resulted in significantly improved usage metrics, in part reflecting the popularity of new material uploaded, including over 300 oral histories as well as three new virtual exhibits. In September 2022, visitor counts spiked, making history.nih.gov the fifth most visited website across the Department of Health and Human Services. The month's sharp increase was most likely due to searches that led users to a single ONHM exhibit—*A Thin Blue Line: The History of the Pregnancy Test*—in the midst of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to strike down protections afforded under *Roe v. Wade*. Nonetheless, that extraordinary popularity serves as a reminder of how valued well-researched, accessible history can be in informing current concerns (website: <https://history.nih.gov/display/history/Pregnancy+Test+-+A+Thin+Blue+Line+The+History+of+the+Pregnancy+Test>).

The Thin Blue Line

The History of the Pregnancy Test



Introduction

hCG Research at NIH

A Timeline of Pregnancy Testing

Popular Culture - Ads

Popular Culture - TV

Introduction

Am I pregnant?

The answer to this age-old question once demanded a combination of guesswork, intuition, and time. In 1978, however, the long wait to know for sure became a thing of the past. Trumpeted by advertisements as “a private little revolution,” the first home pregnancy tests started appearing on drug store shelves that year. A quarter of a century later, innovations promise to make even the telltale thin blue line obsolete. This web site looks at the

“Am I pregnant?”



Publications

- Barr G. (2022) “Behind-the-Mask” Project: Real Stories About Life During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *The NIH Catalyst*, November-December. (<https://irp.nih.gov/catalyst/30/6/from-the-annals-of-nih-history>)
- Higingbotham H. (2022) Radiation Exposure Among Early NIH Workers: Dosimetry Cards and the History of Radiation Safety. *The NIH Catalyst*, September-October. (<https://irp.nih.gov/catalyst/30/5/from-the-annals-of-nih-history>)
- Lyons M. (2022) NIH Museum Makes a Move. *NIH Record*, January 21. (<https://nihrecord.nih.gov/2022/01/21/nih-museum-makes-move>)
- Lyons M. (2022) Saying Goodbye to a Statue. *The NIH Catalyst*, March-April. (<https://irp.nih.gov/catalyst/30/2/photographic-moment>)
- Lyons M. and Wilson D.S. (2022) Generosity of Spirit: How NIH’s Main Campus Came to Be in Bethesda. *NIH Record*, September 2. (<https://nihrecord.nih.gov/2022/09/02/how-nih-s-main-campus-came-be-bethesda>)

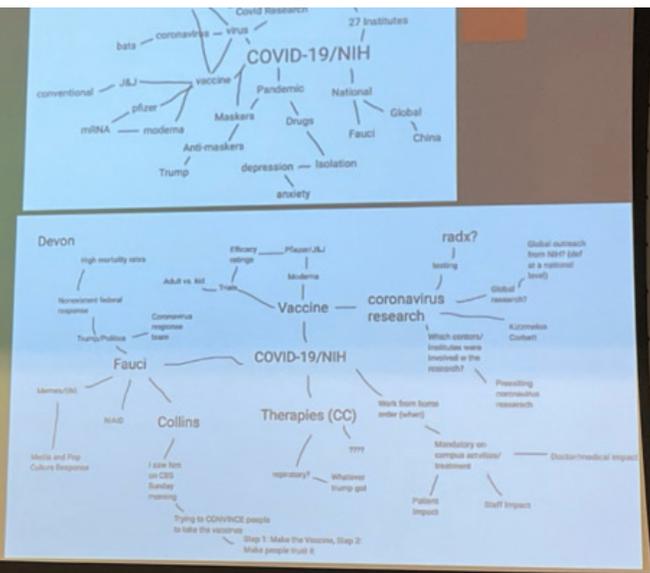
Presentations

- Barr G. (2022) “Meeting the Moment: Documenting NIH’s Response to COVID-19.” 2022 NIH/ FDA COVID-19 Research Workshop.
- Barr G. and Lyons M. (2022) “Taking It to Heart: Documenting and Preserving NIH’s Response to COVID-19.” Annual meeting of Librarians, Archivists, and Museum Professionals in the History of the Health Sciences (LAMPHHS).
- Barr G. and Lyons M. (2022) “Documenting the NIH during the Pandemic and Social Unrest.” Annual meeting of the Society for the History of the Federal Government (SHFG), June 2.
- Barr G., Lyons M., Valera D., and Riewestahl M. (2022) “Documenting the NIH during the Pandemic and Social Unrest.” Annual meeting of the Small Museum Association (SMA), June 3.
- Barr G. and Lyons M. (2022) NIAID LOG Talk on OHNM’s mission and recent activities.
- Pelis K. (2022) “The Office of NIH History and Stetten Museum: NIH History Lives Here!” Meeting of the Advisory Committee to the DDIR, May 23.

Obstacles and limitations: Major changes in Twitter’s business rules, particularly regarding its blue check mark denoting authenticity, have prompted managers of NIH accounts to rethink their use of the site. ONHM has adopted a watchful-waiting approach while investigating a move or expansion to other platforms such as LinkedIn. Unfortunately, the structure and accessibility of ONHM’s website limits its utility as a site for social media posts, particularly for frequent, prompt updates and options that require more complex programming. Publications, presentations, and longer-form posts suitable for a blog are currently limited by the temporary demands of more urgent work, particularly in re-establishing ONHM’s broader scope, staffing, and core functions under its new director.

Where to go after PMMs

- ▶ Once everyone has finished compare the maps:
 - ▶ What similarities do you notice?
 - ▶ What universal themes and emotions are you noticing?
 - ▶ What is the longest chain?



- ▶ Photographs and Screenshots
- ▶ Instruments and Objects
- ▶ Print and Digital News Items



Focus for 2023

ONHM's plans for 2023 include specific, pragmatic efforts to address the obstacles and limitations outlined above while sustaining ONHM's commitment to collecting, support of ICOs and researchers, museum exhibits, and social media. Staffing plans are expected to be completed by the end of the year, with a deputy director, new curator, GS-9 archivist, and contract administrative support person all in place. Improved staffing is expected to immediately ease the work of resolving ONHM's other challenges.

Although issues related to space and security may prove more difficult, significant progress is expected. OIR intends to submit a Space Justification Document requesting additional offices and rooms to house the entire ONHM archive on the second floor of Building 60. Proposed remediation of the environmental issues in the Gaithersburg warehouse is also under ORF review. ONHM will also continue boxing and other measures to better protect individual items.

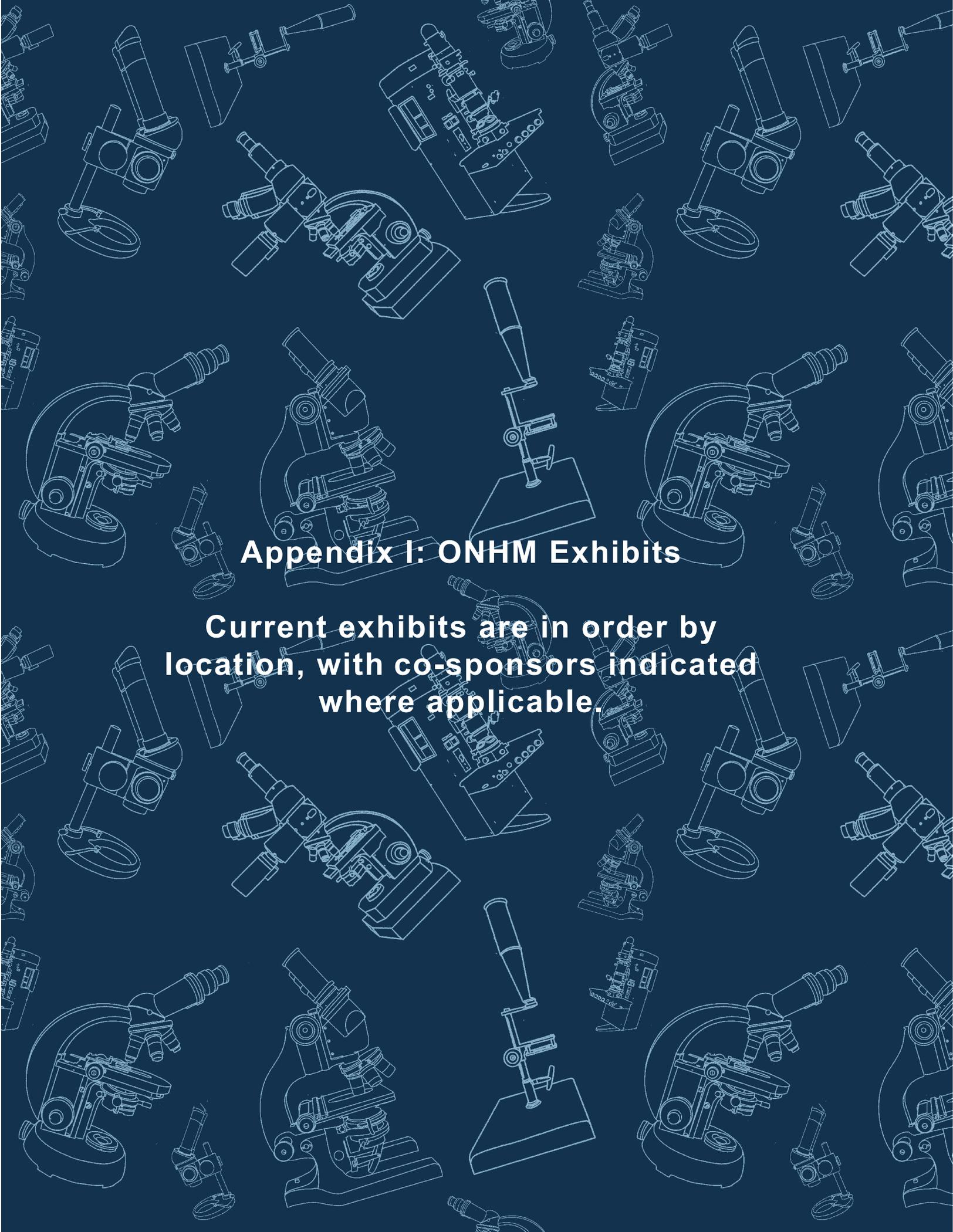
OIR has requested one-time funds for both a major revision of ONHM's website and consolidation of all of its digital assets in a single, secure space. The new website would provide a richer, smoother user experience thanks to a more intuitive organizational structure; a more powerful search function; and the capacity for audio, visual, and interactive components. Consolidation of ONHM's digital assets would provide better intellectual control over the collection, allow

the staff to organize and locate individual files more easily, improve search times, and reduce errors.

Collections for both the ONHM archives and the Stetten Museum are projected to increase by at least 10% as ICOs discover historically important materials in complying with the new OMB/NARA requirements; celebrate anniversaries, retirements, and other important events; and find new value in preserving and sharing their own histories. For the Stetten Museum, 2023 will be a year of exhibits, with three exhibits set for launch and several more in development. (See Appendix.)

Special projects on EDI and the origins of NIH's *All of Us* will wrap up their research phases and move into publication and perhaps on-campus exhibits. Mr. Condon anticipates staying on as a special volunteer at ONHM, acting as mentor and writing up guidelines for other NIH programs and offices interested in documenting their conceptual and organizational roots.

Although most of ONHM's other projects require additional funds, Drs. Pelis and Heitman will focus not just on finding funding but on developing new sources and strategies. Planning a pilot year to restart the Stetten Fellows program is particularly important, since it will allow ONHM to gather preliminary results and develop an infrastructure to interest ICOs in sponsoring fellows to conduct historical research directly related to the ICO's interests, accomplishments, mission, and focus.



Appendix I: ONHM Exhibits

Current exhibits are in order by location, with co-sponsors indicated where applicable.

Current Exhibits:

Christian Boehmer Anfinsen: Protein Folding and the Nobel Prize (Building 10, NIDDK) – As a researcher at the National Heart Institute (later NHLBI) in the late 1950s, Dr. Anfinsen was the first to rigorously describe protein folding, drawing on a combination of protein chemistry and the rapidly developing field of genetics. He later helped found the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES). The exhibit examines his many contributions, including the work that led to his 1972 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. (2018)

Curiosity & Collaboration: The Work of Michael Potter (1924-2013) (Building 10, NCI) – Discoveries by Dr. Potter and his collaborators include the nature and role of immunoglobulins as well as the role of viruses in some cancers. The exhibit presents not only Dr. Potter's research and commitment to open sharing of knowledge but also some of his personal interests. (2018)

Dr. Marshall Nirenberg (Building 10, NHLBI) – In 1968, Dr. Nirenberg became the first federal employee to win a Nobel Prize. The exhibit shows how his work helped “break” the genetic code. (2010)

The Stadtman Way (Building 10, NHLBI) – The Stadtman family were eminent biochemists active in the mid-20th century. Although both conducted essential work on amino acid metabolism, Earl was chiefly known for his work on enzymes and anaerobic bacteria, Thressa for her research on bioenergetics and selenoproteins. Both led labs at the National Heart Institute and were elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Earl was awarded the National Medal of Science in 1979. (2004)

Welcome Back! (Building 10, NIH Library) – This display featuring images of the NIH Library over the years was created to welcome NIH staff as they returned to campus after the most stringent COVID-19 restrictions were lifted. (2021)

Molecular Models (Building 10) – This set of teaching models constructed by Dr. David Davies still clearly demonstrate the structural principles of crystallography. (1990s)

NIH Microscopes (Building 10) – Four microscopes from the Stetten Museum's collection, with stories of the discoveries they were used to make. (2018)

The Clinical Center Cornerstone Dedication (Building 10) – A photo album and other memorabilia from the laying of the CC's cornerstone in 1951. Then-President Harry Truman was guest of honor. (2018)

Windows on NIH (Building 10) – Photographs depicting scenes from NIH’s early years have been fitted into the windows in a wall of the Clinical Center. Originally an exterior wall, it is now adjacent to the FAES Terrace. (1990s)

NIDCR History (Building 30, NIDCR) – The history of dental research at NIH, including contemporary studies conducted at the Institute for Dental and Craniofacial Research. (2018)

NIBIB Past/Present (Building 31, NIBIB) - This exhibit presents new technological solutions for enduring medical issues funded by NIBIB, next to traditional solutions they can supplement or replace. (2017)

COVID-19 & NIH (Building 31) – On display are a variety of items collected by ONHM to document the work and experiences of NIH researchers, staff, patients, and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. (2022).

Santiago Ramón y Cajal (Building 35, NINDS) – This exhibit features a rotating set of original drawings by the Nobel-winning Spanish physician who identified the neuron as the basic unit of the nervous system. Cajal stained and traced the fine structure of nervous tissue in the brain, sensory centers, and spinal cords of embryos and young animals. (2014)

Van Slyke Apparatus (Building 35) – This interactive exhibit features an apparatus, developed by Dr. Donald Dexter van Slyke in the early 1900s, that can determine the concentration of respiratory gases in the blood. It was specifically developed to detect levels of sodium bicarbonate. (1996)

Kapikian Electron Microscope (Building 50, NIAID) – The instrument in this display was used in the mid-20th century by Dr. Albert Kapikian and colleagues to visualize viruses, including the first known norovirus and hepatitis A. (2005)

Varian Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectrometer (Building 50)– NMR is a major tool for visualizing chemical components. This exhibit includes work by Dr. Jay Giedd of NIMH, which used NMR to delineate the maturation process of the teenage brain. (2005)

Making the Rounds - Several small displays in cases spread across campus provide glimpses into important aspects of NIH history. These displays are regularly rotated and refreshed to maximize access and interest.

Dr. Joseph Goldberger (Building 1) – A member of the PHS Commissioned Corps, Dr. Goldberger investigated outbreaks of pellagra in the 1910s, ultimately demonstrating that the disease stemmed from a dietary deficiency rather than an infectious agent. (2019)

NCI Tissue Culture Section (Building 6) – An explanation of several tissue culture methods

developed by Dr. Wilson Earle of NCI in the 1950s and 1960s and still in use today. (2019)
All the Pretty Patches: Emblems of the NIH Clinical Center/Dr. Ichiji Tasaki (Building 10) – Currently a display of fabric patches developed to represent NIH labs and PHS service branches, this case will soon hold a selection of recently donated items documenting the life and work of NIH neuroscientist Dr. Ichiji Tasaki. (2019)

Changing Times (Building 10) – Children’s activity books distributed to patients at the CC reflect changes in social mores and assumptions over several decades. (2019)

Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (Building 40) – As the first woman director of an institute, Dr. Kirschstein led the Institute of General Medical Science (now NIGMS) in the early 1990s and again in the early 2000s. (2021)

Dr. Margaret Pittman (Building 60) – Dr. Pittman, NIH’s first woman lab chief, was internationally known for her work on infectious diseases, particularly influenza. (2019)

Building 29 (Virtual only) - ONHM, the Office of Research Facilities (ORF), and the FDA Office of History have jointly developed a commemorative exhibit to highlight the people and research conducted in Buildings 29 and 29A (<https://history.nih.gov/display/history/Building+29+and+29A+Biologics+Exhibit+H>). The buildings will soon be razed to make way for a more state-of-the art facility. ORF’s contract historian, Katie Watts, developed the exhibit using resources provided by ONHM, including photos, historical objects, and background information about specific events and people. (2021)

In Development:

Lessons Learned: Dr. Anthony Fauci at the NIH (Building 10, NIAID) - This exhibit will present Dr. Fauci’s contributions as a physician-researcher, the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and an advisor to seven U.S. presidents. (Launch planned for Fall 2023)

Shadow Work: Race, Women, and History at NIH (Building 10) – Drawing on a theme from psychology, this exhibit examines difficult aspects of NIH’s history that do not normally draw attention: the history of the land on which the Bethesda campus sits, the history of NIH in relation to common assumptions about race and gender, and the personal stories of NIH staff members from minority communities. (Launch planned for Winter 2023)

Dr. Harvey Alter and the Discovery of Hepatitis C: Making Our Blood Supply Safe (Building 10, Clinical Center) – NIH’s most recent Nobel Prize winner spent his career researching hepatitis and ensuring the safety of our blood supply. (Launch planned for September 2023)

Landsteiner Scale (Building 10, Dr. Roger Orcutt,) This laboratory scale, donated by one of Dr. Karl Landsteiner’s intellectual descendants, was used by Dr. Landsteiner in his groundbreaking discovery of ABO blood groups. Dr. Landsteiner won the 1930 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for this work. (Launch planned for Fall 2023)

Constructing Clinical Research: Dr. John Gallin (Building 10, NIH Library) – In a small display featuring selected accomplishments of the Clinical Center’s scientific director and chief scientific officer, this exhibit illustrates Dr. Gallin’s support for the CC’s buildings, programs, and most of all, its people. (Launch planned for Summer 2023)

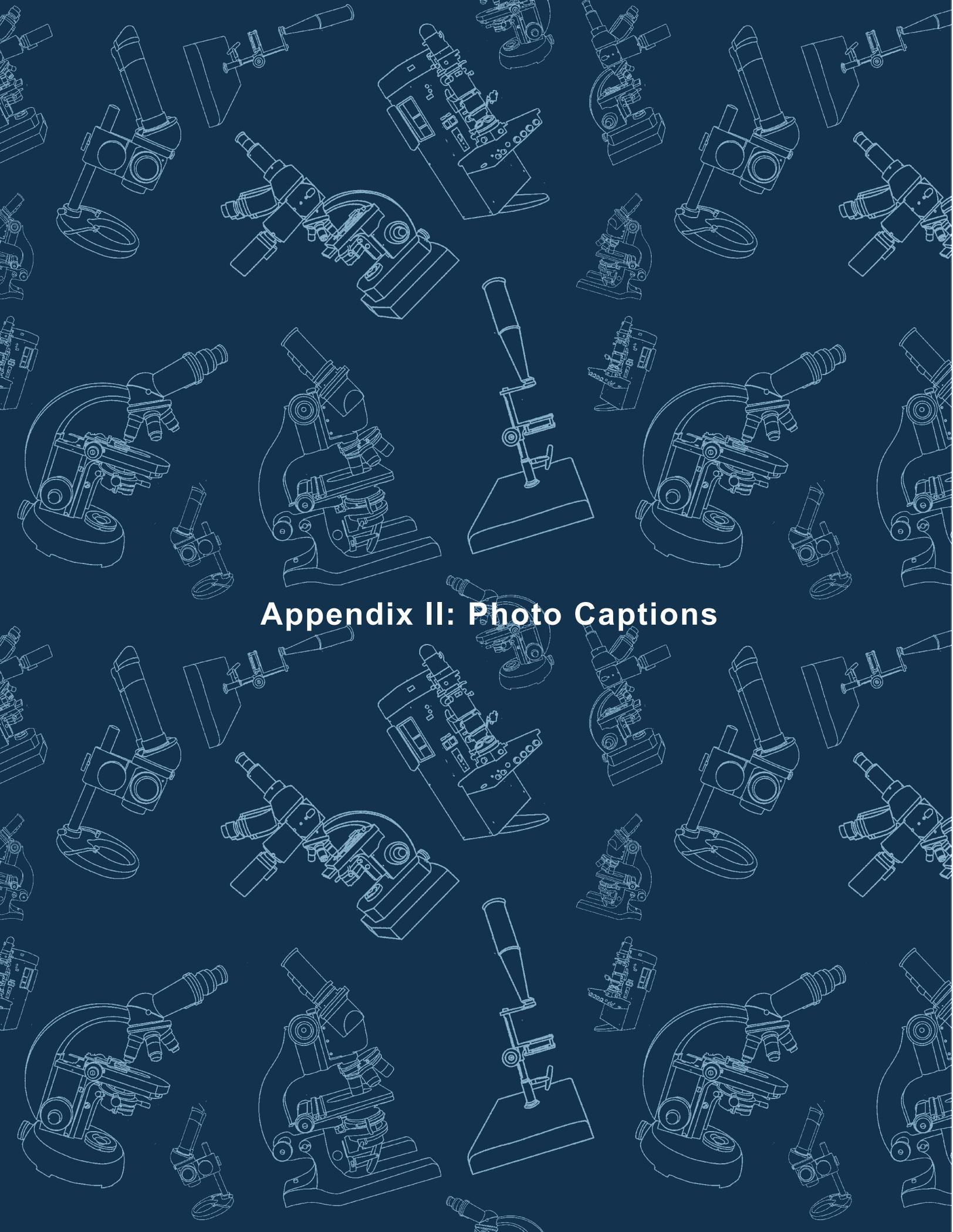
Magnuson/Chinese Exclusion Repeal Act (Building 10, ORS) – The Chinese Exclusion Repeal Act of 1943, also known as the Magnuson Act, partially reversed the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, permitting some Chinese immigrants already residing in the country to become naturalized citizens but allowed states to deny them property-ownership rights. The original CC building was named for Warren Grant Magnuson, who sponsored the bill in the US House of Representatives. (Launch planned for Winter 2023)

At Home at NIH: The PHS Officers’ Quarters (Building 15B, ORF) – As part of the repurposing of buildings (“the Station”) originally constructed as on-campus housing for Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers and their families, two displays will preserve and interpret the history of the houses and those who lived in them. The first will be inside Building 15B, soon to become part of the nearby Children’s Inn. It features toys that belonged to one of the Station’s early families. The second is an outdoor reader rail drafted by ONHM intern Kate Nagy. It explains the history of the Station and identifies several still-visible landmarks. (Launch planned for Winter 2023)

Why was the VRC Established? (Building 40, VRC) – This exhibit depicts NIH’s many contributions to vaccine development, culminating in the 1997 establishment of the Vaccine Research Center. (Launch planned for Summer 2023)

Cray Supercomputer (Building 31C) – Used by a wide variety of NIH researchers in the 1980s, NIH’s CRAY X-MP/22 was the first supercomputer that allowed a single program to access dual processors simultaneously. It was also the first to be dedicated entirely to biomedical research. (In early development)

Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) Schechter Library (FAES Anfinson House, FAES) – FAES plans to open new library named for Dr. Alan Schechter, to include a small exhibit about his life and work. (In early development)

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of white line-art illustrations of various types of microscopes, including compound light microscopes and dissecting microscopes, set against a dark blue background. The microscopes are shown from different angles and sizes, creating a dense, textured effect.

Appendix II: Photo Captions

Page 4: August 30, 2021. Collections Manager/ Curator Devon Valera accessions a Nikon Eclipse E800 Inverted Microscope used by Dr. Emily Danoff in the Laboratory of Molecular Biology, NCI. Photo by Curator Michele Lyons.

Page 5: 1972. Dr. Jacqueline Whang-Peng became one of the first two women to win the Arthur S. Flemming Award honoring outstanding young federal workers for her cytogenetics studies of leukemia. Photo by NIH Photographer Stan Silverman.

Page 6: Dr. DeWitt Stetten Jr.

Page 7: c. 2010. Dr. Robert Martensen was ONHM Director from 2007 to 2012. Photo by Exhibit Designer Hank Grasso.

Page 7: Dr. Victoria Harden, ONHM's founding director. Dr. Harden was Director until her retirement in 2006.

Page 8: 2019. Curator Michele Lyons and then-intern Mark Riewestahl attended the opening of an exhibit about medical museums at the William P. Didusch Center for Urologic History, American Urological Association. ONHM loaned objects to the exhibit. Photo by Exhibit Designer Hank Grasso.

Page 11: January 11, 2023. ONHM Staff Retreat. From left to right: Associate Director and Curator Michele Lyons, Archivist Gabrielle Barr, Archivist Haley Higingbotham, Exhibit Designer Mark Riewestahl, Collections Manager and Curator Devon Valera, Senior Historian Dr. Kristin Heitman, and Director Dr. Kim Pelis. Photo by Christopher Wanjek.

Page 11: March 2019. Volunteers Miriam Muallem and Judy Grosberg flank Curator Michele Lyons at Dr. Gordon Margolin's 95th birthday party. Photo by Exhibit Designer Hank Grasso.

Page 11: March 2019. Dr. Gordon Margolin, long-time volunteer at ONHM, with Curator Michele Lyons at his 95th birthday party. Photo by Exhibit Designer Hank Grasso.

Page 12: Entrance to the Mary Woodard Lasker Center for Health Research and Education (Building 60).

Page 13: May 13, 2022. The Processing Room in the basement of Building 60, where archival and museum collections are processed. Currently, the archival collection is also stored there. Photo by Curator Michele Lyons.

Pages 15-17: January 2022. The museum collection was moved from the Stonestreet warehouse to a new, improved space in Gaithersburg, pictured here.

Page 20: October 2020. The exhibit Ruth Kirschstein: Scientist, Mentor, and Administrator (1926–2009) was installed in Building 40.

Page 21 (top): August 12, 2021. NIH & COVID was installed in the main hallway of Building 31 and featured objects, photographs, artwork, and quotes from NIH staff collected through the Behind the Mask project.

Page 21 (bottom): April 28, 2021. Close up of the case NCI's Tissue Culture Section: Clones, Media, and More which highlighted the Wilton Earle glassware collection from NCI and was installed in the lobby of Building 6.

Page 22: May 23, 2022. The ONHM archival team, Gabrielle Barr and Haley Higingbotham, pose in front of the sorted collection of audio tapes. Photo by Curator Michele Lyons.

Page 26-27: ONHM Reference Library located in Building 60. Photo by Archivist Haley Higingbotham.

Page 29: Gabrielle Barr conducting oral histories over Zoom with Dr. Sameer Kadri, CC (above), and Dr. Irini Sereti, NIAID (below).

Page 35: ONHM staff speaking at Small Museums Association meeting in College Park, Maryland, June 2022. Photo by Director Dr. Kim Pelis.

